



A BRIEF LOOK AT CAREERS IN HOMELAND SECURITY: THE UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

Subject: Law Enforcement, Trade & Industrial Education | Current: 2010 | Grade: 11-12

Day: 1 of 2

1 Purpose

To provide a brief overview of the United State Secret Service and to review the duties of a Secret Service Agent.

2 Duration Of Lesson

50 Minutes

3 Additional Topics Addressed

Homeland Security Careers, Special Agent, Emergency Response Teams, and Counterfeiting operations.

4 Objectives

Students should be able to:

- Learn when the Secret Service was created and its purpose.
- Understand the current mission of the Special Agents and Uniformed Division of the Secret Service.
- Understand how Special Agents and the Uniformed Division carry out their mission.
- To learn who are capable of being protected by the Secret Service.
- To learn a few basic vocabulary words associated with the Secret Service.



5 Standards & Benchmarks

Students will demonstrate appropriate behaviors and characteristics needed for career success and for completion of further education and training programs. They will apply academic skills and knowledge to workplace tasks and develop positive relationships with co-workers, community members, and family.

LE.1

Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills.

LE.1.2

Develop leadership skills.

LE.1.3

Establish positive relationships with people from diverse backgrounds.

LE.1.4

Demonstrate effective listening and speaking skills.

LE.1.11

Research the history and evolution of law enforcement.

LE.3.1

Indiana Department of Education. (n.d.). Indiana Standards and Resources: Law Enforcement: Trade and Industrial Education. Retrieved from <http://dc.doe.in.gov/Standards/AcademicStandards/StandardSearch.aspx>

6 Vocabulary

The following definitions are from:
http://www.secretservice.gov/whoweare_ud.shtml

- **“Counter sniper Support Unit The Countersniper Support Unit (CS):** Created in 1971, the CS unit’s purpose is to provide specialized protective support to defend against long-range threats to Secret Service protectees. Today CS is an operational element of the Presidential Protective Division.
- **The Canine Explosives Detection Unit (K-9):** Created in 1976, the mission of the K-9 unit is to provide skilled and specialized explosives detection support to protective efforts involving Secret Service protectees.
- **The Emergency Response Team (ERT):** Formed in 1992, ERT’s primary mission is to provide tactical response to unlawful intrusions and other protective challenges related to the White House and its grounds. ERT personnel receive specialized, advanced training and must maintain a high level of physical and operational proficiency.
- **Magnetometers:** The Secret Service began relying on magnetometer (metal detector) support by Uniformed Division officers to augment its protective efforts away from the White House following the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan. The Magnetometer Support Unit’s mission is to ensure that all persons entering secure areas occupied by Secret Service protectees are unarmed.”



- **Special Agent:** Agent who carries out counterfeiting investigations or provides close protection to United States officials and other dignitaries.
- **Uniformed Division Officer:** Federal police officer who has jurisdiction within Washington D.C. and surrounding areas.

7 Materials

----- paper, pen, pencil, laptop computer, internet, watch

8 Additional Resources

----- Textbook

9 Procedures & Methods

----- Group assignment

A. Introduction

When class begins, have the students write down their perceptions of the United State Secret Service. Provide about five minutes for the students to write down what they know. After they have written down their responses, have some students volunteer to read their responses aloud to the class. After they have finished, ask them to keep their papers for the end of class. The teacher will ask the students to compare their original perceptions with the facts they review in class.

B. Development

Next, the teacher will divide the class into groups of 5. There are three different worksheets, so there will be more than one group doing the same worksheet. Each group will have a recorder, investigator/researcher, writer, timekeeper, and speaker. Each group will receive a page of questions to answer before the end of class.

Roles:

Recorder: writes down the information for the group

Investigator/researcher: sits in front of the computer to gather the information.

Writer: drafts the information, places it into a format for the speaker to use.

Timekeeper: keeps time for the group assignment, ensures that the group stays on task.

Speaker: presents the findings to the class



C. Practice

Each group will answer the questions (See Worksheets) using the website: <http://www.secretservice.gov>. The group will prepare to discuss their findings with the class.

D. Independent Practice

E. Accommodations (Differentiated Instruction)

Students who have visual, mobile or hearing impairments may need adaptive computer software to assist with using the computer and accessing the websites for information.

F. Checking For Understanding

The teacher will monitor the room. The teacher will sit with each group for approximately five minutes to ensure that the students understand the assignment.

G. Closure

By the end of class the teacher will ask the students to provide some feedback regarding their initial perceptions and their findings.

10 Evaluation

----- The worksheets will be graded. Each question is worth 20 points.

11 Teacher Reflection

----- The teacher must have good classroom management and knowledge of cooperative learning strategies.

12 Resources & Media

----- paper, pen, pencil, laptop computer, internet, watch

[Http://www.secretservice.gov](http://www.secretservice.gov)

Worksheets for groups 1-3 and Key

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UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

Group 1

- Special Agents Protection

1. When was the United States Secret Service created and why?
2. What are the Dual Missions of the United States Secret Service?
3. What year was the United States Secret Service protective mission first mandated and why?
4. Name 6 different types of people the United States Secret Service is authorized to protect.
5. How does the United States Secret Service carry out its protective mission?

Group 2

- Special Agents Criminal Investigations

1. When was the United States Secret Service created and why?
2. What are the Dual Missions of the United States Secret Service?
3. Name 6 of the 8 investigations Special Agents are authorized to conduct.
4. What is the United States Secret Service's primary investigation?
5. Explain what an identity crime is.



Group 3

- Uniformed Division

1. When was the United States Secret Service created and why?
2. What are the Dual Missions of the United States Secret Service?
3. When was the Uniformed Division established and when was it fully integrated into the United States Secret Service?
4. Name 2 of the 4 special support programs provided by the Uniformed Division and what those programs do.
5. How much does a newly appointed officer make and how many hours can they expect to work?



ANSWER KEY

Group 1

1. The Secret Service was established in 1865, solely to suppress the counterfeiting of U.S. currency.
2. Protection and Criminal Investigation
3. In the year 1901 after the assassination of President William McKinley.
4. Any combination of these answers:
 - a. The president, the vice president, (or other individuals next in order of succession to the Office of the President), the president-elect and vice president-elect.
 - b. The immediate families of the above individuals.
 - c. Former presidents and their spouses for their lifetimes, except when the spouse remarries. In 1997, Congressional legislation became effective limiting Secret Service protection to former presidents for a period of not more than 10 years from the date the former president leaves office.
 - d. Children of former presidents until age 16.
 - e. Visiting heads of foreign states or governments and their spouses traveling with them, other distinguished foreign visitors to the United States, and official representatives of the United States performing special missions abroad.
 - f. Major presidential and vice presidential candidates, and their spouses within 120 days of a general presidential election.
 - g. Other individuals as designated per Executive Order of the President
 - h. National Special Security Events, when designated as such by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.
5. The protection of an individual is comprehensive and goes well beyond surrounding the individual with well-armed agents. As part of the Secret Service's mission of preventing an incident before it occurs, the agency relies on meticulous advance work and threat assessments developed by its Intelligence Division to identify potential risks to protectees.



Group 2

1. The Secret Service was established in 1865, solely to suppress the counterfeiting of U.S. currency.
2. Protection and Criminal Investigation
3. The investigation of financial institution fraud, access device fraud, computer crimes, fraudulent government and commercial securities, fictitious financial instruments, telecommunications fraud, false identification and identity theft.
4. The agency's primary investigative mission is to safeguard the payment and financial systems of the United States.
5. Identity crimes are defined as the misuse of personal or financial identifiers in order to gain something of value and/or facilitate other criminal activity. The Secret Service is the primary federal agency tasked with investigating identity theft/fraud and its related activities under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028. Identity crimes are some of the fastest growing and most serious economic crimes in the United States for both financial institutions and persons whose identifying information has been illegally used. The Secret Service records criminal complaints, assists victims in contacting other relevant investigative and consumer protection agencies and works with other federal, state and local law enforcement and reporting agencies to identify perpetrators.



Group 2

1. The Secret Service was established in 1865, solely to suppress the counterfeiting of U.S. currency.
2. Protection and Criminal Investigation
3. 1922 and 1930
4. Any combination of two:
 - a. The Countersniper Support Unit (CS): Created in 1971, the CS unit's purpose is to provide specialized protective support to defend against long-range threats to Secret Service protectees. Today CS is an operational element of the Presidential Protective Division.
 - b. The Canine Explosives Detection Unit (K-9): Created in 1976, the mission of the K-9 unit is to provide skilled and specialized explosives detection support to protective efforts involving Secret Service protectees.
 - c. The Emergency Response Team (ERT): Formed in 1992, ERT's primary mission is to provide tactical response to unlawful intrusions and other protective challenges related to the White House and its grounds. ERT personnel receive specialized, advanced training and must maintain a high level of physical and operational proficiency.
 - d. Magnetometers: The Secret Service began relying on magnetometer (metal detector) support by Uniformed Division officers to augment its protective efforts away from the White House following the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan. The Magnetometer Support Unit's mission is to ensure that all persons entering secure areas occupied by Secret Service protectees are unarmed.
5. 40 hours. \$50,787